

COR-0652

DEVELOPMENTS BRANCH STAFF MEETING - 26 October 1959

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PRESIDENT: [REDACTED] Mr. Parangosky, Mr. Kiefer, [REDACTED]

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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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1. CORONA - [REDACTED] reported a slippage. Instead of the 27th the date has been moved to 30 October. The Spin Rockets are not working as they should. The propellant is failing because of aging. Of the 26, 20 were fired. The plan was to use the eight remaining on the shot; however, failure in the gyro techniques were too great and they exploded instead of firing.

2. ARGON - Progress review of last Wednesday's meeting told of a four-day operational capability of the Agency. Lockheed - Only 20 lbs of payload can be carried over the present. Only 200 lbs per second. Lockheed will refigure.

Tracking System - Lockheed has cost figures. Investigations have narrowed the field to three [REDACTED] and one other. The [REDACTED] tracking 25X1 to 200 ft at 200 miles up to 180° from tracking point. The other two were 600 ft, closer in time to operational readiness. No cost figures were given. Lockheed is also looking into the optical system and will make recommendations by the first of December.

3. General Electric - GE plans to install gyro in the Mark II. This would reduce weight 20 lbs, increase the spin of RPM. They also desire to have parachute injections at 7,000 feet altitude. Also, the plan to put ionization particles in the shield when it comes out makes it more readable from a radar stand point.

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4. [REDACTED] - Nothing new.

[REDACTED] briefed the group on the Wednesday meeting. THIRTY-SIX people were present. Some were cleared and some were not. It is hoped that the next meeting all will be cleared. Operational Readiness will be after 20 May, according to Lockheed.

Mr. Parangosky asked about lenses. Lenses were not discussed. The present schedule fits in all right on the Baker lens.

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5. ANSCO FILM - There wasn't too much news. Mr. Bissell signed off on the paper, approving the [REDACTED] purchase and [REDACTED] was to have had the film delivered to Boston by the morning of 25 October. The one item of concern was that AnSCO film has a tuffer base and might be the answer to the tear problem. In the past and presently we have been using EK film which is pretty good.

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25X1 5. ALTERNATOR: [redacted]

what is going on, the problems, recommendations for improvement, and theories of this program. Much discussion followed.

25X1 6. J-75 - There are two overseas, one is ready for deployment to Detachment C. Both have a hydraulic pump setting.

[redacted] There was some discussion as to the reliability of information received in cables. The information is not always complete nor does it give the true picture of what is going on. It was brought out that the systems were not given the attention that the airplanes and engines were. A reply is expected on the availability of the hydraulic pumps shortly. We also are awaiting information from Kelly Johnson and [redacted]

Developments Branch is taking action on the U pump. No replacements have initiated. Operations has enough information on operational flights to know what the requirements are and can determine what is needed. The immediate problem does not involve any change. The J-75 without

[redacted] replaces the hydraulic pumps in the hope that it will simplify the overflight mission. (About 7 hours). The direct drive is in the test bed airplane. Detachment B has first priority. [redacted] feels that until Mr. Bissell has decided which way he wants to go we are at a stand still. Once the decision has been made we will inform Lockheed.

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25X1 [redacted] is to find out the following:

1. Will pumps go through the engine?

2. Availability of substitute pumps?

3. Are there any in the field?

4. Are there any here?

5. How many hours were on the pumps when they failed, and what happened?

7. QXCART - There is to be a run with the J-58 on Friday at Pratt-Whitney. Kelly Johnson, [redacted] and Mr. Kiefer plan to attend. The J-58 engine for this project is completely redesigned. It is not at all like the present J-58 in use. [redacted] should be completely closed today and in the process of moving to [redacted] says that things are well in hand. [redacted] Commo, is at [redacted] with some commo equipment. It is the back up system and will be put into operation first.

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PERKIN-ELMER has talk with Mr. Bissell on camera Configurations. They came up with 24-inch Schmidt. Mr. Bissell is not satisfied with the weights. P&E submitted their overall cost of the program, [redacted]

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[redacted] plus spares. This is not expensive. The greatest expenses are labor and material.

8. CHALICE - It was mentioned that Doctor Scott feels that big problem in this project is the reliability in the tracker area. It is not as good as it should be. He is striving for a much better percentage. The high costs will reassure the reliability of the system. In the early stages there was a high degree of reliability but after time passed it began to fail. Life cycles are not what they should be and there will be more failures. The personnel changes in P & E at tech rep level contributed to failures; however, they were due largely to life cycles. Mr. Bissell was quite put out about this point.

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[redacted] is to attend the suppliers meeting, 2 November. There is to be a conference on 5 and 6 November at Pratt-Whitney to look into the Pratt-Whitney costs and schedule of hours. Mr. Bissell has stated that some contract people will attend. He also invited some EK people to attend. Mr. Parangosky is going to find out who will represent EK. It is felt that contacts with higher level people will possibly get better results.

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12. U-2 AIRCRAFT - The problem of visual reflectivity of the aircraft was brought up for discussion. No one seemed to be too familiar with the progress or actual work being done. The goal is to cut the visual reflectivity of the aircraft.

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[redacted]
Secretary

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3 November 1959

AIR FORCE



PROGRAM APPROVAL
FOR FY 1960

1. Purpose:
To procure additional Photographic Exploitation Equipment for the Air Force.

2. Description of Work or Services Required:

- Fabrication of five (5) Individual Measurement Viewers identical to the two presently being procured for use by PIC and U. S. Army
- Design, development and fabrication of five (5) Individual Measurement Viewers of an advance design and capability
- Furnish Programming Services for the Digital Computer used with B. above
- Furnish Handbooks of Operation and Repair for A and B above
- Conduct a Training Program in the Operation, Maintenance and Techniques of Using the equipment set forth in A and B. above

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Total

3. Expected Additional or Related Work or Services: NONE

4. Total Estimated Cost:

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5. Delivery Schedule:
All units to be delivered within 11 months of contract; / / 1959

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Training to be completed within 4 months thereafter.

6. Remarks:

This procurement is a part of the Joint Procurement for The Intelligence Community set forth in Memorandum dtd. 9 Dec. 1958 (COM-0272) and Memorandum dtd. 17 Dec. 1958 (COM-0285). However, this is first additional procurement since implementation of Program Approval Procedures.

SIGNED

WILLIAM BURG
Colonel, USAF
Acting Chief, DPD

Chief, Contracts Branch
Authorised DPD-DO/P Requester

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APPROVED: OR RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL: APPROVED:

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

7. Conditions of Approval:

DPD-DO/P:

Distribution:

Orig. - Contracts, DPD
C₄ 2. - DO/P
C₄ 3. - Finance, DPD
C₄ 4. - Dev. Br., DPD
C₄ 5. - Materiel, DPD
C₄ 6. - Chrome RI, DPD